FPPC



Fair Political Practices Commission

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NEWS ADVISORY

For Immediate Release: Contact: Sigrid Bathen August 7, 2003 (916) 322-7761

FPPC chair responds to letter from Issa attorney

Liane Randolph, chair of the Fair Political Practices Commission, has responded to concerns expressed in a letter from James V. Lacy, attorney for Darrell Issa, who today withdrew as a candidate for governor in the Oct. 7 recall election, regarding the compliance obligations for replacement candidates in the election.

"We too are concerned about the impact of the recall election and the burden it will place on this agency," Randolph said. "We too are concerned that the speed with which the recall election will occur and ease with which candidates may place their names on the ballot and run for office will result in numerous, and possibly unintentional, violations of the Political Reform Act."

"The Commission regulates over 10,000 state and local candidates," she added. "We will make every effort to assist candidates in fulfilling their obligations. Ultimately, however, as with any election, it will be up to each candidate to ensure his or her compliance with the Political Reform Act."

Randolph also clarified a portion of the Lacy letter concerning electronic filing: "Your letter notes that candidates have to disclose each and every contribution of \$1,000 or more electronically. While Proposition 34, and legislation passed in 1998, impose various electronic filing requirements on state candidates, these requirements are not triggered until the candidate collects or spends \$50,000. Therefore, it is unlikely that electronic reporting will apply to candidates whose intentions are, as you characterize them, 'not to be taken seriously'."

Copies of both letters are attached and available on the FPPC website at www.fppc.ca.gov Go to "Press Center" on the home page and click on the link in this press release.

Note to editors: The commission will discuss an updated fact sheet on the recall election during its regular monthly meeting on Monday, Aug. 11, in Sacramento. Further information on that meeting is available on the website, under "Agendas" and in an Aug. 5 news release in the "Press Center."

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